

# LINE COPY



January/February 2001    Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department



*Lieutenant Todd S. Hall (Station 19, C-Shift), Firefighter Marlon D. Garner (Station 19, C-Shift), and Firefighter Willie R. Harrison (Station 19, C-Shift) (left to right) fight a Mount Vernon house fire at 4701 Old Mill Road on January 30, 2001.*



Edward L. Stinnette

***“I want to take this opportunity to say thank you for caring and doing the right thing: taking care of people.”***

## From The Fire Chief . . .

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the recipients of the 2000 Valor Awards. In early February, the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce and the community recognized members of our organization for acts above and beyond the call of duty. Many of our awards were for actions while off duty, which shows your dedication and commitment to your chosen profession. It also illustrates how you will do everything humanly possible to help and protect your fellow citizen. These actions are often performed in total disregard for your own personal safety and well being.

This is the second year that I have had the privilege and honor of presenting these awards to our heroes. As I listened to the narrative of each nomination and watched the reaction of the audience as your stories unfolded, it reminded me of just what we do, how we do it, and how it usually makes a significant difference in someone's life. It was an extremely proud day for me, and as always, I came away from this ceremony with a renewed sense of pride and well-being for all of us who are firefighters and part of the fire service. I was also struck by how proud the families, friends, and co-workers were of our recipients. It is a day of celebration and reflection that, in one form or another, affects all of those who attend.

I am also reminded that although we honor some, there are many who have participated in acts that many would call heroic, but have gone unnoticed or believe it's just part of the job. Then there are cases where those who have indeed performed valorous acts, but have received little or no recognition. I want to take this opportunity to say thank you for caring and doing the right thing: **taking care of people.**

In closing, I would like to remind all of our supervisors to take the time to recognize the actions of those who work with you, and where appropriate, to formally recognize their actions. ♦

Edward L. Stinnette, *Fire Chief*  
 Dan Schmidt, *Editor*  
 Jackie Lewis, *Production Editor*  
 Scotty Boatright, *Staff Photographer*

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# From The Editor . . .



**W**ho recently was given responsibility for 33 firefighters, three pieces of apparatus and equipment costing in excess of \$1.2 million, a 4.75 million dollar and 14,000 square foot fire and rescue station, and emergency services for thousands of citizens? If you said: Captain II Edward M. Brinkley, Station Commander of the North Point Fire and Rescue Station (FS39), you would be right.

As we open our 35th Fire and Rescue Station, it seems appropriate that we look at what goes into that task and what it means to the citizens we serve.

Over the past several weeks, Captain Brinkley and his crew have laid out a strategy that would immerse themselves into their new found community. As the previous station commander of Vienna, Captain Brinkley knows well that a proactive community outreach approach is critical in fostering a close-knit relationship between firefighters and the citizens they serve.

Some of his initiatives have included: speaking to homeowner's associations, visiting local businesses, introducing himself to community and political leaders, meeting with school principals, and just familiarizing himself with the lay of the land. He is also currently putting together a web site for the station and is featuring a column called: "Ask the Station Commander." What is key has been his aggressive approach in announcing the station's arrival as a vital member of the community.

As he and his crew integrate themselves into the community, they have a golden opportunity to impact in a positive way. It appears they are well on their way in doing just that. Captain Brinkley has taken the necessary steps of laying the foundation of being a good neighbor by introducing himself and his fellow members into the North Point community. His leadership, the tone he's setting, and the example he has shown have been instrumental in bringing together the fire and rescue department, citizens, and providing the best emergency services possible.

It seems that the Fire Chief and the Operations Chief have chosen the right fire officer to serve the North Point community and to provide the necessary leadership to take care of its citizens. ♦



**Line Copy can be viewed on the Fairfax County  
Fire and Rescue Department Web Site.**

**Our Web Site address is:  
<http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/fire>**

## Upcoming Events

### March

- 1 Fire Chief's Station Visit, Station 25  
8 a.m. - 10 a.m.  
Contact: Battalion Chief Johnson  
(703) 246-4388
- 6 Work Performance Evaluation, B-Shift  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 7 Spring Senior Operations Symposium  
B-Shift  
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Deputy Chief Mastin  
(703) 246-3986
- Work Performance Evaluation, C-Shift  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 8 Spring Senior Operations Symposium  
C-Shift  
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Deputy Chief Mastin  
(703) 246-3970
- Work Performance Evaluation, B-Shift  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 10 Work Performance Evaluation, A-Shift  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 12 Work Performance Evaluation, A-Shift  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 14 Work Performance Evaluation, A-Shift  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 15 Work Performance Evaluation, B-Shift  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 17 Recruitment CPAT Test  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Recruitment  
(703) 246-3939
- 18 Work Performance Evaluation, C-Shift  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 19 Work Performance Evaluation, A-Shift  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970

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# Twenty-Third Annual Valor Awards

## Bronze Medal



**Master Technician  
Jerry L. Smith  
Station 24, A-Shift**



**Firefighter  
Clarke V. Slaymaker  
Station 24, A-Shift**



**Technician (Retired)  
Robert G. Ragan  
Station 24, A-Shift**

**A**t approximately 9:46 a.m. on Sunday, January 16, 2000, fire and rescue units were dispatched to a house fire in the Hybla Valley area of Fairfax County. Truck 424, responding from the Penn Daw fire station, was the first unit to arrive. The two closest engine companies, which carry water and attack hose lines, were already committed to other emergency calls, and therefore would be delayed in arriving.

Truck 424 arrived on the scene and reported heavy smoke and fire coming from a mobile home. Neighbors immediately told them people were trapped inside and voices were heard screaming for help. Immediately, Master Technician Smith, Technician Ragan, and Firefighter Slaymaker entered the structure to rescue the victims. Without the protection of hose lines, they crawled into the home, with a thermal-imaging camera searching for the occupants. Intense heat and fire from floor to ceiling forced them to back out of the trailer. Without hesitation, the crew used a saw to cut an opening in the outside of the trailer, providing firefighters access to continue the search. Two victims were pulled from the home and crews

attempted to resuscitate them. A third victim was located farther in the trailer within minutes.

The crew of Truck 424 met challenges on this incident that taxed them both physically and emotionally for several reasons. Arriving on the scene without the support and protection of hose lines could have severely limited their rescue efforts, but it did not. Being met by highly emotional friends and neighbors, stating that people were heard alive in the structure added to the incident's urgency. Upon learning that two of the victims were children, these three firefighters were faced with a monumental and emotional task.

The outstanding performance given by Truck 424 personnel while carrying out these difficult tasks clearly sets them apart. Faced with adversity beyond their expectations, Master Technician Smith, Technician Ragan, and Firefighter Slaymaker exhibited character, resourcefulness, and bravery in keeping with the highest traditions of their chosen profession. ❖

## Bronze Medal



**Firefighter  
Eric M. Wyatt**

## Certificate of Valor



**Firefighter  
Brian J. Bonkoski**



**Battalion Chief  
Robert E. Witherow**

On the evening of May 19, 2000, Battalion Chief Robert E. Witherow (Battalion 1, C-Shift) had the opportunity to attend a NASCAR Winston Cup race at Lowe's Motor Speedway in Concord, North Carolina. He went to the race with two Fairfax County firefighters, Eric M. Wyatt (Station 11, C-Shift) and Brian J. Bonkoski (Station 31, C-Shift) and his nephew Marcus Treiber, a volunteer with the Dale City Fire Department. As the race came to an end at about 11 p.m., Battalion Chief Witherow noticed several ambulances leave the pit area of the racetrack with warning lights flashing. Shortly thereafter, the president of the speedway announced over the public address system that a pedestrian bridge had collapsed. Within a split second they went to see what had happened. The three of them rushed from their seats out onto the concourse and headed for the collapsed pedestrian bridge. Several ambulances had arrived as they approached the scene. Police officers were trying to restrict access to the area by putting up "Do Not Cross" police tape. They informed them they were firefighters and EMT's from Fairfax County, Virginia, and would like to help.

Once they gained access to the scene they found a 36-ton portion of an 80-foot concrete pedestrian bridge had collapsed on the south-bound lane of US Highway 29. Ambulance crews were trying to gain access to the injured people who were trapped by the chain link fence, which surrounded the walkway. The bridge had collapsed into a "V" in the center while each end of the walkway remained on its respective pillar. Lying

within the center of the "V" were 107 injured people within the fenced-in area of the walkway. They found injured spectators five to six people deep where the bridge came to rest upon the ground. Several bystanders tilted the chain link fence upward, which allowed access to the patients. Eric Wyatt went underneath the fence and began assessing the injuries. Brian Bonkoski, Marcus Treiber, and Robert Witherow began assisting patients who were led to safety from beneath the fence. At this point, no organized triage/treatment area had been established. They each found themselves providing first aid to numerous patients with injuries from cuts and scrapes, to broken ankles, legs, and arms. While continuing to assist with treatment and assessing injuries they requested cervical collars, backboards, splints, cravats, and straps. As the supplies arrived, the patients were secured and stabilized and slid beneath the fence to a safe area. As additional rescuers arrived on the scene, the patients were carried approximately 35 additional feet to a four-foot high guardrail, which separated Highway 29. The injured patients were then lifted over the guardrail and transported to a triage/treatment area. These firefighters assisted the Concord Fire Department until 12:30 a.m. when all of the injured had been removed from the twisted metal and concrete.

At the conclusion of this incident, it was evidenced by local public safety personnel that Chief Witherow, Firefighter Wyatt, and Firefighter Bonkoski played a significant role in helping to mitigate this large scale mass casualty incident. ❖

## Certificate of Valor



**Master Technician  
George A. Hollingsworth**

On July 21, 2000, fire and rescue units were dispatched to a reported serious motor vehicle crash on the Fairfax County Parkway east of Rolling Road in Springfield. Upon arrival, firefighters and paramedics encountered a three-vehicle crash involving two passenger cars (which had collided head-on) and a pickup truck resting on its side. The incident involved four patients, one severely trapped and in critical condition. Off duty Master Technician George Hollingsworth (Station 11, B-Shift) who was traveling on the Fairfax County Parkway near Rolling Road, had arrived on the scene prior to any fire and rescue department units. The action he took prior to the arrival of fire and rescue units was clearly a deciding factor in the outcome of the incident.

Realizing the probability of multiple victims, Master Technician Hollingsworth immediately began assessing and triaging patients. The first victim he encountered was the driver of the pickup truck, found lying on the ground near his vehicle with no immediate life-threatening injuries. A citizen, who had also stopped to provide assistance, was kneeling near the driver. Master Technician Hollingsworth instructed the citizen to remain with this patient, keeping him still until additional assistance arrived. He then proceeded to the next vehicle. Here, he encountered an occupant pinned in the wreckage in the driver's seat. The dashboard was literally crushed around him. He was unconscious, unresponsive, and not breathing with obvious and severe head, chest, and lower extremity injuries. Master Technician Hollingsworth immediately positioned the victim's head in an attempt to open his airway. The maneuver was successful as the victim began gasping for air. A

bystander, who identified herself as a nurse, approached and offered her assistance. He instructed her to stabilize the victim's head in place to keep the airway open. He then proceeded to the third car to check for additional injured occupants. Encountering additional citizens providing assistance to the last two victims, Master Technician Hollingsworth assessed these victims and identified their conditions as non-life threatening. He instructed the samaritans to maintain the victim's positions and keep them lying still until arrival of emergency personnel. Finally, Master Technician Hollingsworth made contact with an on-scene police officer and recommended the appropriate and necessary emergency apparatus to request for response.

Fire and rescue units arrived on the scene shortly thereafter. All four victims were rapidly transported to area hospitals. The critically injured victim's latest prognosis was favorable.

It is obvious that without the quick thinking and appropriate actions provided by Master Technician Hollingsworth, the critically injured driver may have succumbed to his injuries. Master Technician Hollingsworth provided this assistance fully realizing the hazards associated with multi-vehicle/multi-victim trauma incidents. ❖



**Technician  
Kenneth M. Monteleone**

On May 28, 2000, Technician Kenneth M. Monteleone was driving east on Route 66 just outside of Gainesville, Virginia. At approximately 4:50 a.m., Technician Monteleone came upon a single vehicle crash that was fully involved in fire. Technician Monteleone quickly positioned his personal vehicle in a safe location and proceeded to

the wreckage. He immediately noticed one critically injured victim just outside the vehicle and determined one to still be trapped inside.

Technician Monteleone made a courageous attempt to rescue the trapped victim in the burning vehicle. However, without the benefit of personal protective equipment and a hose line, he was driven back by the intense heat and flames. Realizing his efforts were in vain for the trapped victim, he proceeded to provide care to the severely burned victim outside the vehicle. With limited equipment and no protection from exposures, Technician Monteleone provided medical assistance and comfort to the severely burned victim until emergency crews arrived on the scene. Upon arrival of emergency medical personnel, he obtained equipment and continued assisting with patient care. Once firefighting equipment arrived, he carefully directed the fire attack, further assuring the safety of the victim as well as rescuers on the scene. ♦



**Captain I  
Michael L. Runnels**

**T**his is a difficult letter to write, even now. Almost a year ago, March 3, 1999, my husband and I were involved in a terrible auto accident here in Fauquier County. Paul died as a result of his injuries. I would have preceded

him in death were it not for the timely and confident intervention of Mike Runnels of your Department.

I have very little memory of the incident. I was driving my Ford Escort station wagon south on Route 29, about 10:30 a.m. The turn to our road was only about 200 yards ahead. I was bringing my husband home from Fauquier Hospital. He had had rotator cuff surgery there several weeks

before, and was receiving physical therapy three times a week. He had one more week to go.

As we approached the spot where Lovers Lane meets the highway, I caught a fleeting glimpse of a dark sedan entering our path at a right angle. I think I said, "There is nowhere to go" — and then there was nothing. Mike Runnels, at that moment, was approaching from the other direction. He saw the cars screeching to a halt; he saw the dust. Instinctively, he pulled over, got out of his car, and approached the wreckage. Apparently other people had begun to gather, and they were saying that they thought we were both dead. Mike saw me turning blue. He realized the only way into the car was through the back window. He was off duty and driving his son's car, and had none of his equipment with him. He did have his car phone, and he called in the accident and simultaneously called for a helicopter. He then borrowed a crowbar from one of the onlookers, smashed open the rear window, and crawled into our car. After a couple of attempts, he was able to reposition me and open my airway. He saved my life.

I was fortunate. While the oncoming car struck my side of the vehicle (the driver was cited for "failure to yield"), my husband, Paul, took the brunt of the impact, as we were spun around and slammed into a guardrail on the passenger side. Mike knew that time was of the essence for both of us. As it turned out, I had broken ribs and clavicle and a punctured lung. Paul, on the other hand, had more extensive injuries, including the one from which he could not be saved: a ruptured aorta. He died in the helicopter on the way to the hospital.

Mike stayed with us until we lifted off in the helicopter — a time lapse of at least half an hour. He lay there in the car with us, holding both our heads, talking to us, reassuring us. At the same time, he was trying to direct the volunteer rescue crew from Warrenton in the proper means of dismantling the car and removing the two of us.

To this day, I have precious little memory of the accident, or even of the weeks that followed. But I do know one thing, from talking to Mike, and also from talking to friends and neighbors, health care workers and others: if it were not for Mike's

(continued on page 10)



## Hot Shots



Acting Technician Eric A. Russell and Firefighter Dennis M. Kocetki (Station 13, A-Shift) Light and Air unit 431 refilling SCBA cylinders on the scene of a two-alarm townhouse fire at 5049 Americana Drive in the Annandale area.



Fire investigators determined that this single-family home, under construction, at 5017 Marshall Crown Road caught fire because of a heater placed too close to combustibile materials. Firefighters extinguished the blaze in approximately 45 minutes. Fire damage was estimated at \$100,000.



Rescue Company 418 extricated a patient from a pick-up truck that hit a tree on Old Dominion Drive. The patient sustained serious injuries and was transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital. Photo by Captain I Daniel V. Gray (SAFO, A-Shift).



Units from Fairfax City and Fairfax County (Engine 403 and Medic 421) responded to a truck overturned on west bound Interstate 66. There were no serious injuries. Photo by Sheldon Levi (Photo 421).





Firefighters from T424 perform ladder pipe operations on the scene of a single-family house fire located at 4701 Old Mill Road in the Mount Vernon area. It took firefighters several hours to extinguish the blaze. Additional firefighters could not enter the home because of excessive hoarding conditions and were forced to perform firefighting operations from the exterior of the home.

## Upcoming Events

- 20 Work Performance Evaluation, C-Shift  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 29 Fire Chief's Station Visit, Station 8  
8 a.m. - 10 a.m.  
Contact: Battalion Chief Johnson  
(703) 246-4388



A twelve-year-old male escaped this two-alarm townhouse fire without injury. The townhome is located at 5049 Americana Drive, Annandale. An adjoining townhome also received significant damage. Three adults and two children were displaced from the two townhouses.



Master Technician Robert L. Upchurch (Station 19, A-Shift) and Lieutenant Wayne A. Richardson, Fire Investigator, survey the damage of a townhouse kitchen fire located at 8190 Willowdale Court in Springfield. Fire investigators estimated the damage at \$50,000.



A single-family home under construction was fully involved with heavy fire when units arrived on the scene. The house, located at 12211 Wild Horse Drive in the Fair Oaks area, was a total loss with damages estimated at \$180,000. Photo by Sheldon Levi (Photo 421)

(continued from page 7)

timely and expert intervention, I would not be writing you this letter. Mike did everything that was humanly possible, and I will always believe that on that particular day, he was also an instrument of divine intervention.

I have had occasion to talk with Mike several times since the accident. We also have two good friends in common: retired Fairfax firefighter William Makely, my neighbor and good friend; and Lieutenant William R. Hitchings also of the Fairfax Department, and also a family friend. From what I know of your Department through these men, I would say that you have an organization which exemplifies the very highest levels of professionalism and also represents the highest level of human decency and concern for others. It is no wonder, to me, that yours is the best in the country.

I can never thank Mike Runnels enough. But I hope, through this letter, to share to some degree my deep gratitude, and my respect. I hope that you, in turn, will share it with his colleagues and co-workers, who, with him, form part of an invaluable team. ♦

## Lifesaving Award



**Technician  
Joshua T. Allison**

**D**uring the 1999 Thanksgiving season my wife and I were visiting in the Leesburg and Washington, D. C. area. We had a wonderful time visiting friends and family and yes, we had too much turkey and dressing with all the

trimmings during our stay.

On Friday, November 26, our family ventured to Tyson's Corner for dinner. Anyway, we were told the place to get a great steak dinner would be J.R.'s Steakhouse.

I guess you are wondering by now why someone from Chesapeake, Virginia, would be writing a letter telling you of our trip to your area. Well, in fact, I am also writing to thank the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department for having such well-trained personnel.

While dining at J.R.'s Steakhouse I managed to get a piece of steak caught in my windpipe and began choking. I tried frantically to swallow and then to drink water to force it down, but nothing was helping to dislodge the obstruction. Yes, you are right, I was in serious trouble. I stood up and tried to make it to the door so I could get outside the restaurant, not wanting everyone looking at me in this condition. Well, before I knew what was happening, a young man grabbed me and turned me around and proceeded to perform the Heimlich Maneuver. What an immediate relief came over me, I could actually breathe again. Several witnesses wanted to call 911 for help, but the young man stated that he was a Fairfax County Firefighter, and he had things under control. He sure did, and I was fine. I just wanted you to know that you should be extremely proud of the men and women of your department. They respond even while off duty. "This young man saved my life that night."

Sincerely,

Don Allison

P.S. I want you to know that I would write this letter for any firefighter who had assisted me in such a way. The best part of this story..... is that this young man is my son, Joshua Todd Allison.

Thanks son,

Dad



FAIRFAX COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Washington Irving Middle School  
8100 Old Keene Mill Road  
Springfield, Virginia 22152

January 29, 2001

Edward Stinnette, Fire Chief  
Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department  
4600 Chain Bridge Road  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Dear Fire Chief Stinnette,

During the past 4 weeks, my Peer Helping class has benefited enormously from the Emergency First Care and Injury Prevention Course presented to them.

Lieutenants Jeter and Dodson and Technician Tillis were able to relate positively to a group of 8<sup>th</sup> graders while presenting valuable first aid information. Hands on activities maintained the students' interest and gave them practice with lifesaving techniques.

It is my feeling that knowledge helps to disseminate fear. A young person who is trained in emergency care will be better able to react appropriately during a medical crisis.

Thank you for allowing the program to be presented at Washington Irving and we are hopeful that it will continue.

Sincerely,

*Patricia Donovan*

Patricia Donovan,  
Teacher, Peer Helping  
Washington Irving Middle School



Black Women United for Action

6551 Laidlaw Court Suite 222  
Springfield, VA 22150  
(703) 922-5757  
Fax: (703) 922-7681

January 2001

Dear Progressive Firefighters of Fairfax County, Inc.  
The the parents of Chantilly News, would like to thank you for the jackets, tape and thanksgiving baskets you donated to us. The children really enjoyed the gifts, as parents, we thank you for the food. Everything was a great help to us.

Mostly, we would like to thank you, and all firefighters for the great job you are doing. May God continue to bless all of you.

Sincerely,

*Julian P. Smith*

*Ray Settles*

*Sandra Woods*

*Sandra*

*Dr. King & Normie*

*Mary*

*Julian*

*Samuel*

*Nancy Johnson*

# Top 10 Activity Report

## January 2001

### Ambulance

Unit	Calls
A 413	199
A 410	197
A 409	186
A 408	182
A 430	163
A 431	151
A 437	151
A 434	143
A 411	141
A 414	140

### Engine Company

Unit	Calls
E 404	278
E 422	266
E 421	255
E 429	255
E 410	239
E 411	236
E 413	229
E 426	228
E 409	222
E 430	215

### Rescue Company

Unit	Calls
R 421	133
R 426	124
R 401	123
R 418	98
R 411	85
R 419	77
R 414	69

### Medic

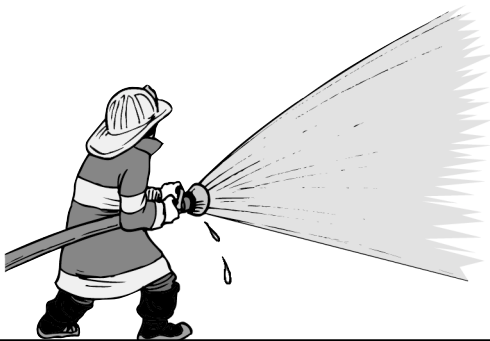
Unit	Calls
M 425	267
M 418	264
M 426	241
M 421	233
M 404	227
M 422	222
M 410	220
M 429	219
M 411	193
M 405	190

### Battalion Chiefs & EMS Captains

Unit	Calls
EMS4	165
EMS5	147
EMS6	131
EMS1	125
EMS2	98
EMS3	82
BC05	75
BC06	67
BC04	66
BC01	64

### Ladder Company

Unit	Calls
T 425	146
T 410	122
T 429	120
T 405	102
T 430	102
T 408	100
T 436	82
T 411	81
T 422	76
T 424	76



**When you don't know, say you don't know. But you should never have to say it twice.**

Unit activity is compiled from the event history file. A unit must be dispatched to a call to be included in an event history file. A unit add-on is not considered a dispatch. Mutual aid dispatches are included in the activity report.



# All Investigators CFEI Certified

By Terry W. Hall  
Investigations

In October 2000, personnel from the Hazardous Material and Fire Investigations Section passed the national certification for fire and explosion investigation. The certification is recognized through the National Association of Fire Investigators, (NAFI). Successful completion of the examination recognizes them as Certified Fire and Explosion Investigators.

No other investigations group is known to have all of its personnel CFEI certified. Investigators

receiving CFEI certification include: Captain I M. Anthony Barrero, Wayne T. Burgess, Captain I Ross E. Christian, Lieutenant William A. Garrett, Terry W. Hall, Master Technician James W. Jones, Captain II David M. McKernan, Lieutenant Kerwin A. McNamara, Lieutenant Martin E. Ranck, Battalion Chief Michael T. Reilly, Lieutenant Dean R. Sherick, Captain I James A. Sobota, and Captain I Paul L. White. ♦

## Community Outreach Highlights



Technician Kenneth E. Neumann (Station 36, A-Shift) assists a parent with the proper installation of her child seats. On Monday, February 12, 2001, firefighters and other child seat technicians conducted a child seat checkpoint at the Capital Expo Center in Chantilly. The event was part of National Child Passenger Safety Week.



ABC's and AED's . . . Robinson Secondary School becomes the first public school in Virginia to get an Automatic External Defibrillator. Spearheaded by the students in the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) program, the school will place an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) in service in early March. The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department has teamed with the school to provide technical support and training for the device. The Public Access Defibrillator (P.A.D.) program is expanding to include the county government complex and other public and private sites in Fairfax County. Above, Captain I Robert A. Konczal, Academy, instructs Robinson staff and DECA students during the certification class.

## Large Loss Fire Investigations

**Date:** 01/01/01 **Box:** 0192 **Address:** 7000 Falls Reach Drive **Type:** Condo  
**Cause:** Accidental-Candle **Value:** \$10,000,000 **Loss:** \$50,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 01/02/01 **Box:** 1504 **Address:** 13240 Custom House Court **Type:** Townhouse  
**Cause:** Accidental-Electric Blanket **Value:** \$132,000 **Loss:** \$80,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 01/05/01 **Box:** 3705 **Address:** 8062 Sky Blue Drive **Type:** Townhouse  
**Cause:** Accidental-Electrical **Value:** \$100,000 **Loss:** \$100,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 01/09/01 **Box:** 0923 **Address:** 2708 Boswell Avenue **Type:** House  
**Cause:** Accidental-Smoking **Value:** \$160,000 **Loss:** \$85,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 01/09/01 **Box:** 0943 **Address:** 7961 Audubon Avenue **Type:** Condo **Cause:** Incendiary  
**Value:** \$652,000 **Loss:** \$50,000 **Status:** Open

**Date:** 01/17/01 **Box:** 1300 **Address:** 2005 Gallows Tree Court **Type:** Townhouse  
**Cause:** Accidental-Electrical **Value:** \$172,407 **Loss:** \$58,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 01/21/01 **Box:** 0111 **Address:** 7532 Ambergate Place **Type:** Apartment  
**Cause:** Accidental-Electrical **Value:** \$960,000 **Loss:** \$75,000 **Status:** Electrical

**Date:** 01/26/01 **Box:** 3506 **Address:** 8109 Willowdale Court **Type:** Townhouse  
**Cause:** Accidental-Cooking **Value:** \$106,000 **Loss:** \$50,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 01/28/01 **Box:** 0101 **Address:** 1633 Davidson Road **Type:** Trailer **Cause:** Incendiary  
**Value:** \$50,000 **Loss:** \$50,000 **Status:** Open

**Date:** 01/29/01 **Box:** 3114 **Address:** 2705 Robaleed Way **Type:** House Under Construction  
**Cause:** Incendiary **Value:** \$75,000 **Loss:** \$75,000 **Status:** Open

**Date:** 01/30/01 **Box:** 2400 **Address:** 4701 Old Mill Road **Type:** House **Cause:** Undetermined  
**Value:** \$100,000 **Loss:** \$100,000 **Status:** Inactive

## Arrests/Petitions

**Date:** 12/29/00 **Box:** 0810 **Address:** 4604 Ravensworth Road **Type:** Outside **Narrative:** On January 5, 2001, fire investigators charged one juvenile with setting an outside fire. A court date is pending.

**Date:** 09/03/00 **Box:** 1207 **Address:** 10605 Runaway Lane **Type:** Mailbox **Narrative:** On January 5, 2001, fire investigators charged two juveniles with burning personal property. A court date is pending.

**Date:** 01/13/01 **Box:** 2700 **Address:** 8301 Old Keene Mill Road **Type:** Outside **Narrative:** On January 13, 2001, fire investigators charged two juveniles with setting an outside fire. A court date is pending.

**Date:** 01/28/01 **Box:** 3507 **Address:** 8612 Oak Chase Circle **Type:** Outside **Narrative:** On January 28, 2001, fire investigators charged two juveniles with setting an outside fire. A court date is pending.



# Community Outreach Highlights

**W**hether you become a counselor, organize a fundraising event, attend visitor's day at camp or maintain a "can wagon" at your station, Aluminum Cans for Burned Children (ACBC) belongs to firefighters. The current success of the program relies on the dedication of many people and its continued success will require the same. With collection sites in Fairfax, Arlington, Alexandria, Prince William, and now in Stafford and Spotsylvania, firefighters are needed to help maintain collection sites and provide additional program support. If you would like to help, call the Public Information and Life Safety Education Section at (703) 246-3801. For the many of you who already help, our young burn survivors say "Thanks!"

**ACBC is....  
and always has been YOUR program!**



*The annual Firefighters Christmas Party, held at Kilroys, raised \$8,000 to benefit the Aluminum Cans for Burned Children program. Pictured left to right: Bruce H. Marlow, C & L Contractors LTD, René Stilwell, Captain Curtis Stilwell (Arlington Fire Department), Master Technician Michael J. Stone, Captain II Charles (Chuck) G. Jacobi, Pip Thomas (Kilroys), Master Technician John (Cliff) C. Berner, Lieutenant Mark D. Stone, and Deputy Chief Carl A. Maurice.*



**Computer Learning Centers Partnership (CLCP) . . .** firefighters in Fairfax County have been trained by Booz•Allen & Hamilton technical experts to put out an altogether different kind of fire – the technical kind. Now armed with IT skills, firefighters will use their new-found knowledge to help CLCP TECH Club students with their computer-related needs. Pictured from left to right are: Battalion Chief Edward G. Wine (Battalion 2, A-Shift), Technician Brent M. Schnupp (Station 30, A-Shift), Lieutenant Wayne P. Wentzel (Station 4, A-Shift), Captain I Robert S. Lison (Station 39, A-Shift), Technician Carlos P. Carrillo (Station 25, A-Shift), Master Technician Christopher Walker (Retired), Technician David P. Tobin (Station 26, A-Shift), and Lieutenant Ricky D. Pray (Station 29, A-Shift).



## Retirements

Captain I Jerry A. Haynes  
April 29, 1974 – January 6, 2001

Master Technician  
Edwin W. Dixon  
August 4, 1986 – February 9, 2001

## New Hires

Virginia Foley  
Terry S. Lee  
Walter McKendree  
Frederick Reddington

## Anniversaries

### 5 Years

Firefighter Jorge F. Arias  
Firefighter Gerald A. Barnes  
Technician Jack W. Billhimer  
Technician Adam C. Brock  
Firefighter Michael W. Engelhardt  
Michael O. Forgy, Instructor III  
Technician Edward W. Gramling  
Firefighter George E. Hahn  
Technician Kit R. Hessel  
Firefighter Clevis R. Hooker  
Firefighter Kenny M. McGee  
Firefighter Robert J. McKay  
Thomas E. Olander, Instructor III  
Technician Raul F. Perla  
Technician Karl D. Roche  
Technician Jeffrey S. Seabright  
Firefighter Levone D. Seegars  
Firefighter Cliff E. Sweeney  
Firefighter Jason D. Triplett  
Firefighter Richard C. Vannoy  
Technician William D. Vannoy  
Firefighter Erich H. Williams

### 20 Years

Technician James M. Blackburn  
Captain II Dean W. Cox  
Captain I Keith A. Cross  
Lieutenant Gary C. Dize  
Master Technician  
Frederick M. Ferraro  
Technician Wesley L. Gallahan  
Battalion Chief John M. Gleske  
Lieutenant Gregg M. Hayre  
Captain I Gregory L. Hedrick  
Technician Andrew J. Hubert

Lieutenant Domenick P. Iannelli Jr.  
Technician Wade F. Mahaffey Jr.  
Captain II Alfred E. Mullins  
Technician Patrick R. Raffert  
Captain I Timothy W. Riffe  
Captain II Jeffrey B. Sager  
Master Technician Michael J. Stone  
Master Technician Kent E. Watts  
Master Technician  
John M. Yadlosky

### 30 Years

Lieutenant Henry M. Skinker



## Morrison Receives Don Smith Award

Lieutenant Patrick J. Morrison was assigned to a ladder truck in the Tysons Corner fire and rescue station when he first envisioned a health program that would promote wellness and health among firefighters and paramedics.

Lieutenant Morrison gathered information from other fire departments in the country and worked to develop support for a health program that would be responsive to employees' needs and meet federal standards. Later, he was assigned to the newly formed Health Programs Section.

The Public Safety Occupational Health Center, now in its third year of operation, was the result. It now serves more than 4,000 employee patients a year.

It has diagnosed several early cancerous conditions among employees, as well as heart disease and other serious medical conditions. Along with that came a moral boost for employees, who felt cared for by a program that addressed them personally.

Lieutenant Morrison showed a need for a Critical Incident Stress Management team to respond to address the emotional issues after a distressing call or event, and has worked with the County's EAP providers to organize a peer support group within the Fire and Rescue Department. ❖



## Station Profile

### Lorton Fire and Rescue Station #19

**Captain II**  
**Charles G. Jacobi**  
Station Commander



**Volunteer Chief**  
**Earl Curtis**

**Station constructed:** 1958

**Station specialty:** Vehicle extrication and highway operations

**Square miles in first due area:** 11.6

**Specific hazardous/target areas:** Lorton Reformatory, Lower Potomac Water Treatment Facility, AMTRAK, Interstate 95, Lorton Incinerator, nursing homes, Alexandria Metal Refinishers, and numerous light and heavy industrial sites.

**Total calls in 2000:** 3,246

**Equipment assigned to station:** Engine, pumper, squad, brush, medic, car, and medic reserve.

**Station personnel:** **A-Shift: Captain II Charles G. Jacobi**, Lieutenant John W. Fedorshik, Lieutenant Daniel L. Whitmer, Lieutenant Verion Williamson, Master Technician Robert L. Upchurch, Technician Michael W. Conover, Technician Larry L. Duncan, Firefighter Clevis R. Hooker, Firefighter Edward F. Imperato, and Firefighter Diron D. Powell. **B-Shift: Captain I Charles H. Clark**, Lieutenant Lonnie G. Belk, Lieutenant Guy P. Davis, Lieutenant Robert E. Wheeler, Master Technician Richard E. Bright, Technician David D. Sweetland, Firefighter Gerald D. Butler, Firefighter Stefan C. Gansert, Firefighter Naftali T. Jacob, Firefighter Matthew J. Louzonis, Firefighter Garfield R. Rodriguez, and Firefighter Clayton Thompson. **C-Shift: Captain I David G. Lange**, Lieutenant Walter A. Deihl, Lieutenant Todd S. Hall, Lieutenant James E. Lee, Master Technician Chester E. Waters, Technician Corey A. Matthews, Technician Thomas R. Mayhew, Firefighter Marlon D. Garner, Firefighter Willie R. Harrison, Firefighter Levone D. Seegars, and Firefighter Gary P. Thompson.

**Volunteer President:** Mike Snow

## Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department

Attn: Public Information and Life Safety Education Section  
4100 Chain Bridge Road  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

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